

Opinion Statement

Home Care - Setup for prescribed (OCD)

In response to questions regarding the setup of patients who are prescribed Oxygen Conserving Devices (OCD) it is the belief of the KBRC that respiratory therapy practitioners should perform patient assessments along with a pulse oximetry (resting and exercise). The findings should then be reported to the physician to determine if the level needs adjusting based on the activity the patient is performing.

Measurements of the baseline saturations are essential during oxygen therapy. The measurements may be used to determine the appropriate flow of ambulation and exercise. These measurements should be repeated when clinically indicated or to follow the course of the disease. Findings and recommendations should again be reported to the physician so that adjustments to the levels can be made as indicated by the results.

Each individual company should perform competency testing of the therapist's evaluation skills and their abilities to perform setups. Written documentation which includes instruction manuals for the conserving devices and troubleshooting tips should be provided to each therapist. Proper education of the patient on the device is essential for the patient to use the device effectively.

Any questions or concerns should be directed to the KBRC office at 859-246-2747 or visit the KBRC web site at <http://kbrc.ky.gov>.

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